



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

Press Release

Release No. CESWF-PA-02-004 Contact: Ron Ruffennach

For Release: Immediate 2 Nov 01 Phone: (817) 978-2196

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to waive day use fees during Veterans Day Weekend

Fort Worth, TX – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will waive day use fees at its recreation areas nationwide during the Veterans Day weekend, Nov. 10, 11 and 12, to encourage Americans to seek renewal and inspiration from the nation's natural resources. In doing so, the Corps will honor our veterans, rescue workers and citizens who have suffered tragic losses during the recent terrorist attacks.

Fort Worth District lakes in Texas having day-use facilities will be included in this tribute. Camping fees will still be charged for visitors staying at parks overnight.

"People have always sought peace and quiet at our lakes, and we encourage them to seek comfort from the natural beauty and serenity of the outdoors during this time of unrest," Colonel Gordon Wells, Fort Worth District Engineer, said. "This is our way of honoring the people who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country in the name of freedom."

The Corps of Engineers is one of our nation's largest providers of outdoor recreation, operating more than 2,500 recreation areas at 456 projects (mostly lakes) and leasing an additional 1,800 sites to state or local park and recreation authorities or private interests. The Corps hosts about 375 million visits each year at its lakes, beaches and other areas, and estimates that 25 million Americans (one in ten) visit a Corps project at least once a year.

Other federal agencies, including the National Park Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Fish and Wildlife Service, are also joining in this effort by waiving various entrance and user fees.